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Larson Secures Funding To Support Economic Development in East Hartford

Washington, DC- Today, U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (*CT-01*) announced that the House of Representatives approved funding that will spur economic development and small business growth in East Hartford. The House approved \$400,000 in federal funding to improve the infrastructure of the Park Avenue commercial area and \$250,000 for the Community Economic Development Fund to support the expansion of their small business services into East Hartford. The funding comes as part of broader legislation to support local economic development and create good-paying American jobs.

“Creating jobs and growing our economy is my top priority. These projects will ensure economic stability and job growth in East Hartford and the Greater Hartford region,” said Congressman Larson.

Funding for the Park Avenue Redevelopment project will be used to develop a master design plan focused on enhancing the infrastructure to make the area attractive and inviting to

businesses. The Park Avenue commercial area was previously used as a warehouse, food, and manufacturing center, however due to major infrastructure obstacles, the area and the warehouse facilities are unfeasible locations for prospective businesses in its current state. The area is being targeted as a location for green and high technology companies.

“Park Avenue has the infrastructure and foundation where an investment of this sort will spur economic development,” said Larson.

The Meriden-based Community Economic Development Fund will expand their successful Small Business Institute into East Hartford. The funding will allow them to offer local businesses training programs and provide individualized assistance to serve the economic needs of small businesses within the town.

“Small businesses are truly the engine of job creation in our economy. The Community Economic Development Fund and its Small Business Institute has helped small businesses throughout the state secure the necessary funding and obtain training to sustain in our weathering economy.”

These projects were included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010 that makes targeted investments in areas that will rebuild our economy and keep our country safe. We increased funding for infrastructure, health and education to immediately create jobs while investing in our local communities and workforce for the long term.

The legislation will now go on to the Senate for final passage and then the White House for the President’s signature.

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